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INFORMAL MINUTES OF MEETING OF DIRECTOR AND CONSULTANTS, INTER-
DEPARTMENTAL FOREIGN INFORMATION ORGANIZATION HELD ON 2/5/51,
IN THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR, at 4 PM

PRESENT:

Department of State

Mr. Barrett, Director
Mr. Oechsner, Acting Executive Secretary
Mr. Phillips
Mr. Hulten
Mr. MacKnight
Mr. Connors (for Item 2)
General Magruder
Admiral Stevens
General McClure
Mr. Sheppard
Mr. Berding
Mr. Wisner

Department of Defense
Joint Chiefs of Staff
Department of the Army
National Security Resources Bd.
Economic Cooperation Adm.
Central Intelligence Agency

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The minutes of the meeting of 1/29/51 were approved with deletion of the last sentence on page 1. It was agreed that minutes should include approximately the detailed discussion and action taken as was incorporated in these minutes.

Mr. Barrett informed the members that he had been in consultation with Mr. Nichols on the development of Project "Brainwave", and that a progress report would be submitted to IFIO at its next meeting.

As to the extent and character of continued research into this field by Mr. Wisner's agency, it was agreed that General Magruder would confer with Research and Development Board on appropriate steps and confer thereafter with Mr. Wisner, the Board to be informed of the outcome of these talks.

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State Department review completed

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Mr. Barrett noted that various proposals for the private use of balloons as propaganda carriers had been brought to his attention, among others by Mr. Drew Pearson. These proposals inquired as to whether government support would be forthcoming. It was agreed that the government was not in a position to provide official assistance to these efforts.

Agenda item 2. Mr. Connors reported on State Department information activities in Korea, noting that ten offices were now operating and that it was proposed to open five more centers. The 8th Army, he said, had requested help from State Department personnel in the preparation of Chinese language leaflets. There were a daily news bulletin, a weekly newspaper, radio broadcasts twice daily, including relay of VOA, and seven mobile teams in the field with thirty-five units on the way. It was planned to centralize all activities in Pusan.

General McClure stated that a message had been sent to Tokyo suggesting the classification of leaflets dropped on enemy troops since their free publication out of context or series could very easily give the wrong impression as to the purpose of individual leaflets.

General McClure further noted that the PW Division of Army had sent the Korea Plan to the field two weeks ago for implementation as appropriate, and asked whether it had similarly been sent by the Department to State elements in Korea. The Acting Executive Secretary was requested to give the Board an interim report on this at the next meeting.

Agenda item 3. Mr. Berding proposed the Nobel Project as outlined in his paper already distributed to the Board. The project was discussed and there were no objections by the Board, provided that a preliminary check of the living Nobel peace prize winners were made to determine whether any of them might not agree to participate in the project. Mr. Berding was requested to develop the project in collaboration with a State Department representative to be designated by the Chairman.

Agenda items 4 and 5 were carried over until the next meeting.

Agenda item 6. Mr. Phillips briefly outlined the proposed Indochina Plan which was accepted by the Board subject to a change in the covering memorandum to the effect that implementing departments provide "a statement of operational plans based on this paper" rather than "prepare a detailed plan for the implementation of such parts of it as come within the responsibilities of the department or agency, so as to assure coordination of propaganda with substantive political, economic, and military programs."

P:IFIS:FCOechsner:jl

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